FBIS DAILY REPORT CONTENTS

Latin America

Vol VI No 007 *12 January 1982*

ARGENTINA

Government Cancels Transfers of Diplomats B 1
Grain Exports for 1981; USSR Principal Buyer [HERALD 4 Jan] B 1
Briefs: Under Secretaries Named B 1

BOLIVIA

Coup Activity Rumors, Denial Reported C 1
Remaining UNHCR New Year Detainees Released C 1
Government Restricts Sale of Foreign Currency C 1
Labor Minister Downplays COB Statement C 2
Santa Cruz Commission Adopts State of Emergency C 2
Government Names Representatives to IADB C 2

BRAZIL

Government To Plan Strategy for Elections [FOLHA DE SAO PAULO 10 Jan] D 1
Brossard Criticism D 1
Government Not Backing Extension of Mandates [FOLHA DE SAO PAULO 9 Jan] D 1
Congress Approves Several Measures Before Recess [JORNAL DO BRASIL 11 Jan] D 1
Minister Galveas Sees 1982 as Difficult Year [O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO 9 Jan] D 2
1981 Balance of Trade Surplus Reported D 2
Venturini Asks for Nuclear Program Suggestions [O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO 10 Jan] D 3
Briefs: Exports to Iraq; Grape Production Figures; 1981 Consumer Price Index D 3

CHILE

Interior Minister on U.S. Senators' Visit E 1
Need for Negotiation on Sea Outlet Noted [TERCERA DE LA HORA 21 Dec] E 1

COLOMBIA

Labor Leader Murdered, Two Others Missing F 1
Guerrillas Killed in Clashes With Army F 1
Dead Guerrillas Identified F 1

PERU

Prime Minister Ulloa Asks for a National Pact J 1
Southern Railway Paralyzed by Union Strike J 1
Recent Terrorist Actions, Bombings Reported J 2
Security Officials Assessment J 2
Policeman's House Bombed J 2
Weapons Seized J 2

VENEZUELA

Foreign Minister on Relations With Uruguay L 1
Confidential Note Sent to Guyana on Essequibo L 1

PANAMA

U.S. Army Chief of Staff Visits National Guard N 1
Arms Cargo Storage Not Permitted at Canal Port [CRITICA 11 Jan] N 1
Demonstrators Call for Treaty Compliance N 1
U.S. Accused of Delaying Commission's Work [LA PRENSA 10 Jan] N 2
Negotiator Speaks in Favor of Treaty Revision [LA PRENSA 8 Jan] N 2

CENTRAL AMERICA

EL SALVADOR

Usulutan Under Curfew Due to Terrorist Attacks [EL DIARIO DE HOY 11 Jan] P 1
Army Reports on Antiguerrilla Operation P 1
FMLN War Bulletin From 'Northeast Front' [Radio Venceremos] P 1
CCE President Explains Election Process [EL DIARIO DE HOY 8 Jan] P 2
More Details on Procedures [EL MUNDO 8 Jan] P 3
Study Reports on Economic Aid to Government P 3
Argentine Aid Cited [Radio Venceremos] P 4
Ministry Announces Trade Agreement With Honduras P 4

GUATEMALA

Army Chief Charges Nun Involved With Guerrillas P 5
Subversives Seek Disruption of March Elections P 5
Deputy Foreign Minister Unhurt in Attack on Home P 5

HONDURAS

Text of Foreign Secretary's Protest to Nicaragua P 6
President-Elect Delays Choosing of Cabinet P 7
Government Takes Steps in Transportation Crisis P 8
Armed Forces Called Out P 8
Detained Drivers Drafted P 8
Communique Issued P 9

NICARAGUA

Opposition Leaders Beaten at Memorial Ceremony P 9
Arrested PSC Leader Jarquin Anaya To Be Released P 9
Military Jeep Follows Politicians During Tour P 10
Officials Comment on French Arms Purchase P 10
Junta Spokesman P 10
Foreign Ministry Comments P 10
UN Secretary General Briefed on Border Incidents P 11
Costa Rican Official To Meet on Border Issues P 11
Daniel Ortega Visits Troops on Honduran Border P 11
Foreign Minister d'Escoto Travels to Venezuela P 11
Cuba Offers 400 Scholarships for 1982 Study P 12
Security Uncovers Plot Against Property, Leaders P 12
D'Escoto Views Poland; Criticizes U.S. P 13
Radio Denies Interior Ministry Communique [Radio 15 September] P 13

CARIBBEAN

CARICOM Council Meeting To Open 12 January S 1

GRENADA

Delegation to OECS Meeting Led by Whiteman S 2

BAHAMAS

Pindling on Unemployment, Economy, Drugs S 2
Decrease in Drug Trafficking S 3

GOVERNMENT CANCELS TRANSFERS OF DIPLOMATS

PY111334 Paris AFP in Spanish 0104 GMT 9 Jan 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 8 Jan (AFP) -- The armed forces government has conducted a major reorganization of the Argentine diplomatic cadres by canceling the transfer orders of nearly 250 diplomats who had their baggage packed and ready to travel to their new assignments, it was officially reported here.

The reorganization cancels 14 resolutions issued in the last days of former Foreign Minister Oscar Camilion, who was replaced by Nicanor Costa Mendez, within the framework of the changes ordered by the armed forces in December when it decided to remove President Roberto Viola.

GRAIN EXPORTS FOR 1981; USSR PRINCIPAL BUYER

PY041744 Buenos Aires HERALD in English 4 Jan 82 p 7

[Text] (NA) -- Argentina exported over 20 million tons of grain during the first 11 months of 1981 and the Soviet Union was its principal buyer, acquiring nearly 75 percent of the total exported grain.

According to a report by the National Grain Board made public yesterday, grain exports between 1 January and 30 November 1981, amounted to 20,313,173 tons.

The Soviet Union bought 15,750,721 tons.

The total grain exports correspond to 3,524,994 tons of wheat, 9,091,188 tons of maize, 4,930,151 tons of sorghum, 2,206,864 tons of soya, 126,028 tons of oats, and 122,521 tons of millet.

The 15,750,721 tons acquired by Moscow, the main Argentine grain buyer, correspond to 2,946,287 tons of wheat, 7,988,793 tons of maize, 3,966,347 tons of sorghum and 716,514 tons of soya.

The second Argentine grain importer was Mexico (1,058,324 tons), followed by Italy (613,855 tons), Holland (545,535 tons), Spain (452,190 tons) and Brazil (383,417).

The busiest grain trading port in Argentina during the period covered by the National Grain Board survey was Rosario.

Ingeniero White, near Bahia Blanca, came in second followed by Buenos Aires, Villa Constitucion and San Lorenzo (both in the Province of Santa Fe).

BRIEFS

UNDER SECRETARIES NAMED -- (NA) -- The new president of YPF [Government Oil Deposits] will be Mario Luis Pineiro, currently president of Hidronor, and he will replace General Carlos Suarez Mason in that post, it was learned yesterday. Also yesterday, General Luis Martella took over as chief of the federal police, replacing General Juan Bautista Sassiain. It was also learned that Rugero Scalisi will be new fuels under secretary and Mario Alberto Wiegers new energy under secretary, replacing Guillermo Wallbrecher and Bernardo Bronstein, respectively. Navy Captain Ciro Garcia will be secretary of maritime interest, Julio Amancio Cueto Rua marketing under secretary at the Trade Secretariat, David Lacroze the agriculture under secretary at the Agriculture Secretariat, Jorge Augusto Tanoira livestock under secretary, Jorge Eduardo Bustamante economy under secretary, Pascual Palazzo transport under secretary, and General Angel Barbieri communications under secretary. [Text] [Buenos Aires HERALD in English 6 Jan 82 p 9 PY]

COUP ACTIVITY RUMORS, DENIAL REPORTED

PY091118 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 9 Jan 82

[Text] Persistent rumors have been circulating in La Paz that Col Faustino Rico Toro, commander of the Bolivian Army Military School, will reportedly begin a coup at any moment.

This rumor, denied by Colonel Rico Toro himself, points out that the coup will take place immediately following the implementation of the economic reorganization plan which is expected to be released at any moment.

The commander of the military school has stated that the new military assignments and the economic measures are causing a breakdown within the armed forces and the country. This statement has been confirmed by Colonel Rico Toro, although he added that considering the current situation in the country, the duty of any good Bolivian is to support the government and that he has never been involved in coupist issues because he considers himself an honorable military officer.

Colonel Rico Toro made these remarks at the end the ceremony at which Bolivian President Celso Torrelio Villa assumed command of the armed forces. During this ceremony the president promised to strengthen the military institution to preserve peace, the territorial integrity and the security of the nation.

REMAINING UNHCR NEW YEAR DETAINEES RELEASED

PY111215 Paris AFP in Spanish 0127 GMT 9 Jan 82

[Text] La Paz, 8 Jan (AFP) -- The 5 last detainees of a group of 34 people arrested at the house of a female employee of the office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) have been released.

The other detainees were released in the last few days after being arrested by former agents from the State Special Security Service (SES) when they were holding a yearend party in the house of U.S. citizen Lee Romero Rea, the UNHCR representative in Bolivia.

The petition for a writ of habeas corpus which was to be considered by a court today therefore became inapplicable with the release of the last five detainees. The petition had been filed by a dozen young lawyers who claimed the illegality of the detentions.

Several dozen youths, some of whom belong to the opposition Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR), had met at Lee Romero's house, the official report said.

GOVERNMENT RESTRICTS SALE OF FOREIGN CURRENCY

PY111721 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 11 Jan 82

[Text] The Finance Ministry and the National Chamber of Commerce will initiate today a study on the money exchange market which has been operating simultaneously with those institutions which are legally authorized to engage in this type of activity.

Since the establishment of the foreign currency control system, those importers with foreign debts have had two options to pay: with foreign currency obtained from the Central Bank or from the free money exchange market. It is obviously better to pay with dollars obtained at 25 pesos each than those obtained at higher rates, like those from the monetary exchange market.

For its part, the Central Bank has drastically reduced the sale of foreign currency at the official rate since it does not have an adequate supply, and it also established a list of priorities for the sale of foreign currency.

Either because the supply of foreign currency is not adequate or the imports to be made are not included in the lists of established priorities, some businessmen have faced the dilemma of either buying currency at the money exchange market or of defaulting -- which would mean losing credit and the possibilities of continuing to operate. If he pays to his foreign creditors with foreign currency bought at the exchange market, there remains a difference between the rate at which the foreign currency is sold on the free market and the official rate.

Since businesses could not account for this difference in their books, the Finance Ministry authorized them to enter it as an expenditure. Therefore, thus far they have entered this difference as a profit [as heard]. Thus, businesses have been doubly prejudiced: firstly, by having to buy dollars at more than 25 pesos each and secondly, by having to pay taxes on that difference which appears as though it were a profit.

LABOR MINISTER DOWNPLAYS COB STATEMENT

PY112158 Paris AFP in Spanish 1443 GMT 9 Jan 82

[Text] La Paz, 9 Jan (AFP) -- The labor minister, Col Guido Suarez Castellon, declared here today that a statement by the outlawed Bolivian Labor Central (COB) demanding salary adjustments is subversive and distorts reality.

In a statement published yesterday, Friday, underground COB leaders stated that those measures the government has been preparing to implement in its economic reorganization will drastically affect the workers, whose income at present barely covers 31 percent of the family budget.

Suarez Castellon pointed out that the publication of a statement by a nonexistent organization (the COB) is meaningless at a time when legitimate unions are being formed in all of the country's labor sectors.

SANTA CRUZ COMMISSION ADOPTS STATE OF EMERGENCY

PY081934 Paris AFP in Spanish 1616 GMT 8 Jan 82

[Text] La Paz, 8 Jan (AFP) -- The commission for Santa Cruz, the most important civilian organization in this department located 1,000 km east of here, has declared itself in a state of emergency as a result of the Bolivian Government's plans to impose assessments on its budget which, in their opinion, should be covered by the national budget.

The gist of the issue seems to be aimed at preventing regional funds from being used to finance the construction of the modern Viru-Viru Airport located on the outskirts of the city of Santa Cruz, the cost of which is estimated at more than $10 million.

This regional organization also announced that it will ask for an increase in the petroleum royalties it is receiving which now amount to 11 percent.

GOVERNMENT NAMES REPRESENTATIVES TO IADB

PY111458 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1720 GMT 9 Jan 82

[Text] La Paz, 9 Jan (TELAM) -- Government sources today reported that Bolivian President Gen Celso Torrelio Villa has appointed the representatives of the Bolivian Army, Air Force and Navy who will serve on the Inter-American Defense Board [IADB].

They are: Gen Lucio Anez Rivero, former army chief of staff, for the army; Gen Waldo Bernal Pereira, former commander of the Bolivian Air Force, who will serve at the IADB's office in Washington; and Comdr Tomas Orosco Saracho, for the navy.

GOVERNMENT TO PLAN STRATEGY FOR ELECTIONS

PY111503 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 10 Jan 82 p 1

[Text] During the congressional recess [15 January-28 February] the government will evaluate the possible consequences of the electoral "package," which is to be approved tomorrow by the voting-default mechanism, for the purpose of defining its strategy not only for this year's elections but for the whole future of the political process. To that effect, the government will canvass the opinion of mayors, governors, congressmen and leaders of the Social Democratic Party [PDS] in order to obtain information on which to base the party's position regarding the various proposals under consideration.

Planalto Palace is concerned over the prospect of a substantive reduction of the PDS congressional bloc. At the moment, two basic alternatives, with variations, are supported by government officials: one by those who believe an accommodation of forces with opposition sectors will be possible after the elections in November to guarantee a progovernment majority in the Electoral College that is to choose Figueiredo's successor; and the other by those who favor the extension of current mandates as the only viable solution to ward off a stalemate.

Brossard Criticism

PY112303 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 11 Jan 82

[From the "Congressional Report"]

[Text] While on the floor, Senator Paulo Brossard also discussed the government's electoral reform bill, which he termed the most tangible evidence of political immorality ever produced in the country.

He criticized the majority bloc which, convoked to vote under the party loyalty law, decided to let the electoral package become a law through the constitutional time-limit mechanism.

He also expressed surprise over reports of another forthcoming package for March since the present one does not seem to be sufficient for the government's needs. He concluded by stating that it would be better for the government to divide the votes of the opposition and to multiply those of the majority in this year's elections.

GOVERNMENT NOT BACKING EXTENSION OF MANDATES

PY111551 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 9 Jan 82 p 1

[Excerpt] Justice Minister Ibrahim Abi Ackel and Planalto Palace Spokesman Carlos Atila denied yesterday that the government is supporting a congressional movement favoring the extension of current congressional mandates. Minister Abi Ackel said that the government should at all times make public its position on this question, but he did not want to give any hint as to what it would be, on grounds that doing so would reduce the impact of the announcement.

Atila for his part insisted that Planalto Palace has nothing to do with initiatives for the extension of congressional mandates and recalled that the government has already scheduled elections for 15 November 1982.

CONGRESS APPROVES SEVERAL MEASURES BEFORE RECESS

PY112338 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 11 Jan 82 p 2

[Excerpt] Brasilia -- The congressional special session which opened on 6 December will close next Friday 15 January. The most controversial matter examined in this special session -- the electoral package -- was approved by the time-limit constitutional mechanism turning a bill into law without voting on it [decurso de prazo]. The PDS [Social Democratic Party] congressmen argue that the special session became indispensable to dispose of matters that could not wait for resolution until March [when congress reconvenes].

During this 40-day long special session the government managed to pass the electoral reform bill, the creation of the State of Rondonia, the appointment of five ambassadors, the disbursement of 4.5 billion cruzeiros to states and municipalities and of 13 billion cruzeiros of supplementary credit to the federal budget. In addition, the government has practically ensured the passage of the ineligibility law [some of whose provisions will be changed so as to restore political rights to some people who have somehow run afoul of the national security law] which will be voted on in the Senate tomorrow.

MINISTER GALVEAS SEES 1982 AS DIFFICULT YEAR

PY120154 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 9 Jan 82 p 22

[Excerpt] Yesterday Finance Minister Ernane Galveas called on all national and foreign businessmen, government employees and workers "to work hard" like in 1981. In a speech he delivered to more than 500 businessmen who were honoring him with a luncheon held at the Gloria Hotel in Rio de Janeiro, the finance minister noted: "1982 will be a difficult year. We will have to learn to live with bitter solutions to be able to solve difficult problems like the social security problem; we will have to establish the price of bread at a higher level than that of the inflation rate in order to do away with the subsidies on wheat. Moreover, we will have to confront many of the difficulties we had to confront last year demanding many sacrifices to overcome them."

According to Galveas "In view of the diminished possibility of expanding imports [as published], with the losses in trade and the interest rates on loans, if the Brazilian economy is to grow, it must increase and diversify its exports both regarding products and purchasing markets in the short term. Moreover, we must promote the development of those sectors that require a low level of imports such as agriculture and mining."

After evaluating the shocking impact of oil prices and of the sharp increases of international interest rates on national loans, Galveas noted that Brazil "was plundered in 1981." He noted that a combination of these adverse factors caused a decrease of $6 billion in the GDP (approximately 2.5 percent) cutting out more than 1 million jobs: "This was the sad part of 1981 and this, to a great extent, tarnished the results obtained in the budget sector, the curbing of inflation, improvement in the situation of the balance of payments and the solution of the energy problem."

1981 BALANCE OF TRADE SURPLUS REPORTED

PY120113 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 11 Jan 82

[Text] The year 1981 closed with a $1,207,000 balance-of-trade surplus, the country's historically highest surplus and the second following the $97-million surplus in 1977 when Brazil recorded its first surplus since the onset of the oil crisis in 1973. Exports amounted to $23,293,000,000 and imports totaled $22,086,000,000.

These 1981 final figures on the trade account were officially released yesterday by Finance Minister Ernane Galveas and Finance Ministry Secretary General Carlos Viacava. Minister Galveas termed these results highly satisfactory, considering the international circumstance quite unfavorable for marketing Brazilian products due to the recessive situation of industrialized countries, the high international interest rates and the appreciation of the dollar.

The goal of the government for this year is to export $28 billion while importing only $25 billion, thus to have a $3 billion surplus in the balance of trade.

VENTURINI ASKS FOR NUCLEAR PROGRAM SUGGESTIONS

PY111546 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 10 Jan 82 p 1

[Text] In a document prepared at the request of military household Chief Gen Danilo Venturini for new suggestions for the Brazilian nuclear program, physicist Jose Goldemberg says that the program may yet be accepted by the Brazilian society, in particular by the scientific community. The condition for that, according to Goldemberg, is that the program should be more modest. To this end, he made some proposals such as for the deadline for the construction of Angra 1 and Angra 2 to be moved up to 1990, for Nuclep [Nuclebras Heavy Equipment Inc] to be deactivated, for the absorption of nuclear technology to be intensified, and uranium reserves to be reassessed.

BRIEFS

EXPORTS TO IRAQ -- It has been reported that in the next few days, USIBA [Bahia Iron and Steel Mill], will export 23,000 tons of iron bars for concrete to Iraq. [Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 5 Jan 82 PY]

GRAPE PRODUCTION FIGURES -- Brazilian grape production of the 1980-81 harvest has surpassed 420 million kg, growing by 29.41 percent in comparison to the previous harvest. [Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 5 Jan 82 PY]

1981 CONSUMER PRICE INDEX -- The National Consumer Price Index during 1981 showed a 91.2 percent rise. The Central Bank report also disclosed that agricultural production increased by 7.9 percent and the livestock production by 6 percent last year. [Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 5 Jan 82 PY]

INTERIOR MINISTER ON U.S. SENATORS' VISIT

PY112026 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 11 Jan 82

[Excerpt] Interior Minister Sergio Fernandez has stressed the significance of the visit recently paid to Chile by three U.S. senators headed by Republican Majority Leader Howard Baker.

The minister told reporters that he regarded the visit by the three U.S. senators as considerably important, for it confirms the tightening of relations between our country and the United States.

He added: The influential senators who visited us were able to see in our country not only the economic progress Chile has made after the chaos inherited in 1973, but also the legalistic approach with which the present government has increasingly organized its actions, overcoming the difficult problems encountered at the beginning as a result of the stern demand for freeing the country from an imminent civil war. Besides, they had the chance to get first-hand knowledge of our political constitutional process and the way the new constitution foresees the gradual and sovereign advancement of the country toward the enforcement of a full, revitalized and stable democracy, strong enough to be able to face, with its own juridical instruments, the threat by those who seek to destroy it.

NEED FOR NEGOTIATION ON SEA OUTLET NOTED

PY120232 Santiago Chile TERCERA DE LA HORA Spanish 21 Dec 81 p 2

[Editorial by Oscar Pinochet de la Barra: "Bolivia and Chile: A Sea Outlet Finally?"]

[Excerpts] Judging by the Chilean and Bolivian foreign ministers' declarations that both of them are satisfied with the OAS resolution at the Saint Lucia assembly, one might believe that a positive step has been taken regarding Bolivia's sea outlet problem. It also seems useful to take a glance at what has happened over the past 3 years.

Let us recall that in the OAS preparatory session in September 1979, this organization agreed to include in the agenda of the Ninth General Assembly the maritime problem of Bolivia, with only Chile voting to the contrary. So began a new, multilateral era in the old debate with our country's consequent protest. In October 1979 the General Assembly unanimously, with the absence of Chile and Paraguay, passed a resolution declaring "of permanent hemispheric interest finding an equitable solution through which Bolivia may obtain a sovereign and useful outlet to the Pacific Ocean" and recommending that the countries involved in this problem initiate negotiations for a Bolivian "free and sovereign" sea outlet.

What happened on the small island of Saint Lucia when the OAS held the Eleventh General Assembly?

It was once more established, with Chile's vote this time, that the sea outlet for Bolivia is a question "of permanent hemispheric interest."

Will the nearly century-old dialogue be resumed? The responsibility is on Bolivia's shoulders. But there are two problems: The first one is that there are no diplomatic relations because they were severed by Bolivia and the second one is the Bolivian refusal to accept a territorial swap.

Undoubtedly this is the time to resume the exercise of traditional diplomacy through quiet negotiations and discreet contact to pave the way for official and public dealings.

The word in La Paz is that there have been so many failures that dialogue cannot be trusted. Nevertheless, the worst negotiations is the negotiation not undertaken. On its part, Chile should return to its traditional policy of "nonterritorial compensations" and it should realize that sucess can only be attained if parallel dialogues are held with Bolivia and Peru.

It is worth the trouble to pick up this question where it was left off in 1976. With our southern border seriously threatened, it is advisable to reach an equitable accommodation on the northern border.

LABOR LEADER MURDERED, TWO OTHERS MISSING

PA090420 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1436 GMT 8 Jan 82

[Text] Medellin, Colombia, 8 Jan (EFE) -- Labor leader Luis Javier Cifuentes Cifuentes' body was found today in a deserted area on the outskirts of the Colombian city of Medellin.

Cifuentes Cifuentes, an official of the National Union of Workers of the Colombian Tobacco Company, who had been missing since 31 December when unidentified individuals kidnapped him from his home in the capital of Antioquia Province.

A military spokesman reported that the labor leader's body had been slashed and showed signs of having been beaten. Cifuentes died, however, after receiving two shots in the nostils and one in the back of his head.

The same source pointed out that two other labor leaders, Jesus Arias Velez and Georlan Echavarria Patino, have also been missing since unidentified individuals kidnapped them from their homes last week.

GUERRILLAS KILLED IN CLASHES WITH ARMY

PA111928 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1644 GMT 11 Jan 82

[Text] Bogota, 11 Jan (LATIN-REUTER) -- Three guerrillas were killed and two others wounded in a clash between army troops and members of the People's Liberation Army (EPL), in the northern part of the country, the Defense Ministry reported today. The clash took place in San Andres and La Oscura, Cordoba Department, some 900 km north Bogota.

According to the same source no soldiers were wounded.

The Defense Ministry also reported that Heriberto Arbelaez, a ranch owner, was kidnapped early this morning in Enchigorado by a commando of the Revolutionary Armed of Colombia (FARC). Enchigorado is some 600 km north of Bogota.

Dead Guerrillas Indentified

PA120423 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 2330 GMT 11 Jan 82

[Text] Bogota -- Eight guerrillas were reported killed in various clashes with the army, according to an official communique released today by the Defense Ministry.

The slain guerrillas, identifies as (Jose Dagoberto Meaza), (Epifanio Ayala), (Hernando Osorio), (Jose Maeza), (Migued Osorio) and (Jose Edison Gallo), were members of the Armed Revolutionary Forces of Colombia (FARC). They were killed in a fierce battle with forces of the 1st Brigade.

Elsewhere, it was learned that one of two members of the 19 April Movement killed in these actions was identified as (Euclides Toledo), while the other's identity has not been established.

PRIME MINISTER ULLOA ASKS FOR A NATIONAL PACT

PY112005 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1711 GMT 11 Jan 82

[Text] Lima, 11 Jan (LATIN-REUTER) -- Prime Minister Manuel Ulloa has called upon Peruvian political parties and labor unions to conclude a national pact to fight what he describes as the scourge of inflation.

Ulloa, who is also economy minister, made that call in a television speech in which he reviewed the 18 months which have passed since the country returned to democracy after 12 years of military government.

The prime minister said that inflation, which climbed 72 percent last year, was the main obstacle to the country's economic recovery. He said that the scourge of inflation continues to undermine the stability of families, to sow insecurity and desperation in households, and to disrupt the fabric of society and of the economy. But he stated that the government is exerting control over its causes and that the inflation rate was coming down.

We should now act against the psychological causes that give rise to mistrust, fear and insecurity, he added.

Ulloa called upon political parties, national institutions, and social communication media to support what he referred to as a simple pact of national commitment to fight inflation and those who fuel it.

He remarked that an agreement between employees and employers to guarantee labor peace to carry out the country's development plans was of vital importance. All Peru is demanding understanding and harmony, the minister emphasized.

On his 97-minute speech, Ulloa admitted that the government of President Fernando Belaunde Terry has made some mistakes and failed to fulfill some objectives. He blamed international recession for the fact that the economy had not grown at the expected pace. He said that the agricultural sector underwent a spectacular expansion and that it will continue to expand this year. He then added that the government will give priority to the oil and mining industries which constitute the country's main export industries.

Ulloa stressed the governmental viewpoint that it was impossible to boost the nation's development without foreign investments.

Ulloa's speech was well received by government supporters who said that the speech was coherent and realistic.

Opposition politicians, however, expressed skepticism, saying that the prime minister did nothing but restate declarations and policies that proved unsuccessful before.

SOUTHERN RAILWAY PARALYZED BY UNION STRIKE

PY111549 Paris AFP in Spanish 1636 GMT 9 Jan 82

[Text] Lima, 9 Jan (AFP) -- It was learned in this capital today that the Peruvian Southern Railway -- which is also used by Bolivia -- has been at a standstill since yesterday following a decision by the Railway Workers Union.

The workers of that union have joined the strike called on Thursday by the employees of the state-owned railway enterprise to protest the replacement of local employees with those from Lima.

The Southern Railway, which has about 2,000 employees, links the Matarani port with the cities of Arequipa, Puno, Juliaca and Cusco and it also carries freight and passengers from Bolivia to Lake Titicaca.

RECENT TERRORIST ACTIONS, BOMBINGS REPORTED

Security Officials Assessment

PY111450 Tacna Radio Tacna in Spanish 1200 GMT 11 Jan 82

[Text] Groups of terrorists seized 15 submachineguns and 12 revolvers in the latest attacks launched since the lifting of the state of emergency in Ayacucho. They are also supposed to have more than 20 complete civil guard and republican guard uniforms.

An evaluation of the extremist action, which was regarded as bold and highly dangerous, was made at an emergency meeting held by the auxiliary forces command in the wake of the killing of republican guard (Adrian Romo Flores).

The above arms were seized from policemen during the attacks against (San Jose de Cequilla) in Tambo, in (Yaracuco) and in other attacks. Information regarding the latter is strictly classified.

Policeman's House Bombed

PY111500 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2245 GMT 8 Jan 82

[Text] Huaraz, 8 Jan (TELAM) -- Another terrorist attack, which brings to 37 the total of attacks perpetrated in Ancash Department, was carried out today against the residence of Maj Luis Gonzales Huerta, of the Investigative Police.

It has been officially reported that an explosive charge with a burning fuse which was planted at the door caused major damages to Gonzales Huerta's residence.

The three Gonzales Huerta children saved their lives by running up to the second floor when they smelled a strong odor.

Gonzales Huerta, the security chief of the Huaraz Departmental police, recently received an anonymous message warning him to stop hunting for the leaders of the pro-Maoist terrorist group Shining Path in Ancash Department, which is located north of Lima.

The perpetrators of 18 terrorist attacks who are members of a group known as Mote have been serving a jail term in the Huaraz prison.

Weapons Seized

PY082007 Paris AFP in Spanish 1420 GMT 8 Jan 82

[Excerpt] Lima, 8 Jan (AFP) -- It was reported here today that on Wednesday approximately 100 alleged terrorists, masked and heavily armed, raided and dynamited the police post at San Jose de Cejilla, Ayacucho, in the central-southern region of the Andean mountains of Peru, and fled taking weapons and ammunition with them.

The terrorists, who were wearing ponchos and had their faces covered with shawls, attacked the post unexpectedly. Upon subduing the four guards, whose fate was ignored, they blew up the post with dynamite after seizing two submachineguns, four revolvers and three rifles and ammunition, it was reported. The alleged terrorists also attacked and looted the home of the town's governor, Andres Llactahuaman, who alerted the Huanta police.

The post is located in the same jurisdiction of Huanta Province where the police post at Tambo was attacked 5 months ago, when two civilians and an agent died. As a result of that incident the government declared a state of emergency in five provinces of Ayacucho Department.

FOREIGN MINISTER ON RELATIONS WITH URUGUAY

PA112138 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2020 GMT 11 Jan 82

[Text] Caracas, 11 Jan (LATIN-REUTER) -- Foreign Minister Alberto Zambrano said today that Uruguay should take the initiative in seeking a resumption of diplomatic relations with Venezuela.

"Venezuela believes that it is advantageous for there to be diplomatic relations between the two countries, since they are Latin American nations," Zambrano said during a talk with newsmen.

He added that in this case, "It is up to Uruguay to take the initiative."

Venezuela and Uruguay broke off diplomatic relations in July 1976, 1 week after an incident took place at the Venezuelan Embassy in Montevideo.

Venezuela reported that Uruguayan policemen arrested a woman who was seeking asylum and attacked an embassy official.

Zambrano was asked about the relations between his country and Uruguay after Uruguayan Foreign Minister Estanislao Valdes Otero stated in Montevideo that his country was well disposed toward Venezuela.

CONFIDENTIAL NOTE SENT TO GUYANA ON ESSEQUIBO

PA102010 Paris AFP in Spanish 1626 GMT 10 Jan 82

[Excerpts] Caracas, 10 Jan (AFP) -- The Government of Guyana has recieved a confidential message from the Venezuelan Government, which thus took the first step toward solving the two countries' dispute over the Essequibo region.

DIARIO DE CARACAS interviewed Rudolph Collins, Guyanese ambassador to Venezuela, and pointed out that the diplomat was the bearer of the message, which contains a proposal for bilateral discussions. These discussions could become the basis for action in 1982.

DIARIO DE CARACAS pointed out that Oswaldo Paez Pumar, deputy foreign relations minister of Venezuela, met on Thursday with Ambassador Collins and handed him the confidential message on renewing the dialogue between the two countries. There had been no dialogue between them until then.

Georgetown, the Guyanese capital, has not yet responded to the message. However, Guyanese Foreign Relations Minister Rashleigh Jackson and Venezuelan Ambassador to Guyana Sadio Garavini have met there and improved relations are foreseen.

U.S. ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF VISITS NATIONAL GUARD

PA120208 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2245 GMT 11 Jan 82

[Text] U.S. Army Chief of Staff Gen Edward Meyer visited the Panama National Guard commander in chief, Col Florencio Florez Aguilar. General Meyer is one of nine four-star generals in the U.S. Army. The U.S. Army chief of staff arrived at the National Guard general command at 1030, accompanied by Lt Gen Wallace Nutting of the U.S. Southern Command in the canal area.

After having reviewed the troops, Gen Edward Meyer met with Col Florencio Florez in his office. During the interview, which the Panama National Guard officers described as a courtesy visit, Colonel Florez thanked General Meyer for his attention to the National Guard members during the visit to Washington on the occasion of the army commanders in chief meeting. Colonel Florez said that during this meeting there was a frank and sincere atmosphere which should prevail among men of arms. Colonel Florez said that the fruits of the meeting are being harvested today and hoped that the close ties established during the meeting will prevail. Lt Col Armando Abel Contreras was also present during this morning's meeting.

ARMS CARGO STORAGE NOT PERMITTED AT CANAL PORT

PA111538 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 11 Jan 82 p 1

[By Erich Rodriguez Auerbach]

[Text] In the past few hours high-ranking Panamanian Government officials denied permission for a ship arriving from Singapore, en route to Lima, Peru, to dock at the port of Cristobal. The vessel is carrying a large cargo of war materiel. A shipping agency in the area asked to use warehouses belonging to the port authorities at Cristobal, Colon, to store a cargo of various weapons for 10 days.

As reported, the Soviet-made weapons are in transit from Singapore, an Asian country near Vietnam.

The Panamanian authorities pointed out that the port of Cristobal is not set up to store this type of cargo which would call for special surveillance by the National Guard. This kind of surveillance would not be considered normal procedure for cargo at a nonmilitary port.

DEMONSTRATORS CALL FOR TREATY COMPLIANCE

PA092320 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1715 GMT 9 Jan 82

[Excerpts] Events to commemorate the heroic deed of 9 January 1964 were held in Panama City. The events began with a demonstration which started from Ascanio Arosemena Plaza, formerly known as the Shaler Triangle, and ended at Amador cemetery. The demonstrators carried placards noting the heroic struggle of the Panamanian people and chanted slogans demanding Panamanian sovereignty over the former Canal Zone.

The demonstrations belonged to several civic and private organizations. In addition, the demonstration included members of the Federation of Panamanian Students and top government officials, including Labor Minister Oyden Ortega, Deputy Health Minister Edith Jimenez de Bethancourt, presidential adviser Marcelino Jaen, DIGEDECOM [General Directorate for Community Development] Director Rigoberto Paredes, Foreign Minister Jorge Illueca and Housing Minister Abel Rodriguez. Also among the demonstrators were Jorge Arosemena of the Panamanian Tourist Institute; Ivan Arosemena, deputy director of IDAAN [National Water and Sanitation Institute]; and Hector Pinilla, acting mayor of the capital district.

The main event was held at the tomb of Ascanio Arosemena, the first martyr who fell in the historic action of 9 January 1964. Gustabo Torregrosa was the first to speak on behalf of the movement of martyrs of 9 January 1964. There were many demonstrators at the Amador cemetery to participate in these commemorative ceremonies. The demonstrators then went to Ancon Hill, where Norma Nunez Montoto, secretary general of the Journalists Union of Panama, spoke. She criticized the U.S. policy regarding compliance with the treaties and said that the United States has adopted a unilateral policy of noncompliance. She attacked the Reagan administration and noted that the Panamanian authorities must take steps to make sure the treaties are implemented.

U.S. ACCUSED OF DELAYING COMMISSION'S WORK

PA102204 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 10 Jan 82 p 8-C

[Text] The executive board for treaty affairs has said in a press release that the mixed commission on the natural environment has been incomplete for more than 1 year because the United States has not appointed a replacement for one of the U.S. members of that binational organization composed of Panamanian and U.S. citizens. This situation is detrimental because it is obstructing a great part of the mixed commission's work, especially regarding recommendations to each government. This fact was reported by the Panamanian Government last September when it asked the Panamanian members to abstain from participating in any meeting until the missing U.S. member has been appointed. The mixed commission on the natural environment is composed of three Panamanians and three U.S. members. The delay in the commission's work could have grave consequences.

NEGOTIATOR SPEAKS IN FAVOR OF TREATY REVISION

PA082232 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 8 Jan 82 p 1

[Excerpt] Dr Carlos Alfredo Lopez Guevara said yesterday that the government is making a "mistake" in "playing local politics with the Panama Canal." Lopez Guevara warned that there is a need "to at least revise" Article XIII (1) of that treaty, which compels the United States to turn over to Panama a waterway that operates efficiently and is free of debts. Lopez Guevara noted that "it is obvious that the United States will not turn a modern canal over to Panama." "I have not seen the U.S. Congress vote a single penny to that effect; moreover, I have seen that they really oppose that idea," Dr Lopez Guevara said. "Such a revision would only be feasible politically, if studies prove that the canal will fall behind in its services," Dr Lopez Guevara stated.

According to the lawyer, who has broad experience in canal affairs, the United States and Panama must "unanimously" agree to "jointly" adopt policies regarding tolls, wages and studies that will determine Panama Canal investments for "new works." The new works defined by Lopez Guevara are a third set of locks, "especially the Lopez Moreno plan, with which I personally agree" or a sea-level canal, "which I rule out because it is not economically feasible." He added, "two key concepts" must be taken into account when revising Article XIII. First, the Panama Canal Commission (PCC) must annually provide both in the medium and long run, enough resources to adequately maintain the canal. The Panamanians on the board of directors must make sure that the PCC budget allocates sufficient amounts for maintenance and for construction required by canal users. Second, if the treaty provides for the canal to be returned to Panama debt-free and functioning efficiently, tolls must be increased.

Lopez Guevara criticized "all Panamanian Government policies opposing an increase in canal tolls. Panama must demand a toll increase," he said. He had previously said this was a working formula for achieving the general wage increase for employees working in the canal area. He added that there will be a smaller "political problem" for Panama if the increase occurs under U.S. administration.

EL SALVADOR

USULUTAN UNDER CURFEW DUE TO TERRORIST ATTACKS

PA112154 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 11 Jan 82 pp 8, 31

[Excerpt] A curfew from 2100 to 0500 has been imposed in Usulutan in order to prevent terrorist activities. Officials have announced that martial law has been imposed to protect honest, working people. This city has suffered from several terrorist attacks in recent months. Last Friday the terrorists attacked from 0500 to 1200 when security forces finally defeated the subversives who were trying to take the city for the third consecutive time. Two terrorist attacks were launched before Christmas, and on these occasions the extremists were also defeated by the armed forces. On those occasions they damaged property and caused several deaths and injuries. During Friday's attack the subversives suffered over 20 casualties. On that day they attacked other towns such as Concepcion Batres but were defeated by security forces and forced to withdraw.

ARMY REPORTS ON ANTIGUERRILLA OPERATION

PA112309 Paris AFP in Spanish 2127 GMT 11 Jan 82

[Excerpts] San Salvador, 11 Jan (AFP) -- Operation Petronilo, the antiguerrilla drive conducted by the Salvadoran Armed Forces over the weekend in the foothills of Chichontepec volcano, San Vicente, 70 km east of this capital, left 20 guerrillas and 2 soldiers dead, and several wounded on both sides. The operation, which began on 7 January, is the first to be carried out by the army against guerrilla redoubts this year. Preliminary reports indicate that "several camps were dismantled and large quantities of weapons, medicines, foodstuffs and FMLN propaganda material were seized." Over 2,000 troops from the armed forces' engineers training center, the 5th Infantry Brigade headquartered in San Vicente, artillery units and the Atlacatl battalion -- the counterinsurgency unit trained by U.S. advisers -- participated in operation Petronilo.

The official spokesman, who released the preliminary report today, said in answer to a question from AFP that the most important camps dismantled during Operation Petronilo were located in Coyolito, Penas Arriba and El Carmen districts. Several roads linking some estates and farms with San Vicente have been reopened to traffic, the spokesman said, adding that the guerrillas had dug ditches in them to block access to the urban area.

"Fortunately, we lost only two men," he said, referring to the two soldiers who were blown up by a mine the first day of the operation. He added that no further operation of this type is expected to be carried out for the time being. He stressed, however, that "the armed forces are on the alert" against any eventuality and operations may be launched in other parts of the country "where the civilian population may be in danger."

FMLN WAR BULLETIN FROM 'NORTHEAST FRONT'

PA091609 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1200 GMT 9 Jan 82

[War bulletin from Francisco Sanchez Northeastern front -- read by announcer]

[Text] January 6, 1982: At 0500, FMLN forces advanced toward enemy positions in the town of Sensembra, Morazan Department. Fighting against the enemy forces positioned in the town's suburbs began at 0600. The enemy forces were surrounded at the command post at 0545. Finding themselves surrounded at the command post, 13 paramilitary elements surrendered to the forces of the Francisco Sanchez Northeastern front at 0730. A total of 16 Garand rifles, 3 M1 carbines, a G3 rifle, a sizeable amount of ammunition, 5 knapsacks with war material and uniforms were seized during this operation. Sensembra remained under FMLN military control until 1300, when our forces withdrew after accomplishing their mission.

At the same time that our forces seized Sensembra, siege was laid on the enemy at the town of Yamabal. The siege was maintained until 1300, the time when our forces withdrew from Sensembra. We were unable to determine the number of casualties inflicted on the enemy during the fighting in Yamabal.

In addition, roadblocks were set up on roads which the enemy might use to send in reinforcements from (Guacajiagua) and San Francisco Gotera. Heavy fighting began at 1200 with enemy reinforcements from Gotera. The clash lasted until 1400. The enemy was unable to cross our lines. The number of casualties inflicted on the enemy is unknown.

The enemy suffered three casualties during the fighting to seize Sensembra. We deplore the death in combat of Companeros (Daniel) and (Rigo). In addition, two of our fighters were slightly wounded. The enemy troops who surrendered were told the reasons for our struggle and briefed on the country's current political and military situation. They were then released. This operation was led by Commander (Eleno Castro), Commander (Carmelo). General political-military command of the Francisco Sanchez Northeastern front. [Signed] Commander Jonas. United to fight until final victory. Revolution or death, we will win. Morazan, 7 January 1982.

CCE PRESIDENT EXPLAINS ELECTION PROCESS

PA082323 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 8 Jan 82 pp 4, 18

[Excerpts] The Central Electoral Council [CCE] is made up of three appointed members; Jorge Bustamante, Ramon Ernestro Rodriguez Rivas and Luis Alberto Aparicio Rodriguez. This was revealed by CCE Chairman Bustamante shortly after having received Venezuelan Foreign Minister Jose Alberto Zambrano Velaso, who visited this organization to express his solidary support for the electoral process now in progress. Bustamante said that he did not know when the government junta would appoint substitute members. So far the Supreme Court of Justice has presented some candidates. One is from the Renewal Action Party [PAR].

He added that the Nationalist Republican Alliance [ARENA], People's Orientation Party [POP], PAR and Christian Democratic Party [PDC] have told the CCE that they are not opposed to having Rodriguez Rivas continue as a member of the organization. Nevertheless, Bustamante explained that the Rodriguez appointment is not a fact until the government junta issues the appropriate decree.

Regarding the candidates presented by the Supreme Court of Justice, several names are mentioned; Ricardo Molina Aguilar, Hector Mauricio Arte Gutierrez and Mateo Sanchez. Bustamante said that the precinct reports will not be altered because in the past, when these reports arrived at the CCE, the figures had been completely changed. Now, he said, 12 hours after the precinct reports are turned in, the election results will be known because, "manipulation will not be allowed."

In explaining the following steps in the electoral process, Bustamante said that elections were called on 5 January. The registration of candidates will close on 28 February. The electoral campaing will begin on 29 January and will end 3 days before the election day.

The dealine for registering party candidates with the departmental electoral boards is 29 January. The departmental electoral boards will have three members and no party may have two members on any board. The deadline for the appointment of the departmental and municipal electoral boards is 15 February.

Political parties have until 15 February to present candidates. The CCE has until 28 February to appoint the members of the municipal electoral boards. Regarding the vote-counting boards, Bustamante said, parties will have to present their candidates and during the first 15 days in March the CCE will have to appoint the electoral boards as such. In other words, these are the mechanics of the electoral process from today on.

Bustamante also said that to date the Salvadoran People's Party has not presented the list of its board of directors. That is to say, it is not legally registered. Bustamante added that the CCE expects some 800,000 to 1 million voters and will print the necessary ballots. He said that the problem of the ballots will be secondary because voters will be marked with an indelible ink purchased in the United States. The ink stains last for some 12 hours and voters will not be able to vote twice because their fingers will be stained.

The CCE president offered to demonstrate the ink, staining the finger of a volunteer in front of newsmen. Regarding the number of ballot boxes, Bustamante said some 5,000 will be distributed throughout the country. He also said that the armed forces will maintain strict vigilance but not within the electoral precincts. The army will be on the streets to prevent terrorist attacks. He said there would be ballot boxes at most government schools, making it as easy as possible for voters to cast their ballots.

More Details on Procedures

PA092230 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 8 Jan 82 p 2

[Excerpts] Dr Jorge Bustamante explained further that the electoral registry and the voting lists are not the same. The registry exists because mayoral offices send the council a copy of the cedula (personal identification document) obtained by each citizen as established in Article 7 in the temporary electoral law. The lists, on the other hand, will not be compiled because, in addition to confusing the citizen, they would make him waste time, the official said.

The registry, Bustamante added, is being cleaned up to clear multiple cedula listings which have been detected. In one case, he said, we discovered a person who had 73 cedulas. He added that it has been made easier to vote since voters may cast their ballots in any municipality of the department in which they reside or have obtained their cedulas. For example, if someone has a cedula from the town of Aguilares, he can vote with equal ease in San Salvador or in any municipality of the department, he said. Dr Bustamante explained that the previous register has been discarded for many reasons, such as the previously mentioned multiple-document problem, the half-million registered citizens who have left the country, the over 100,000 deaths and so forth.

Dr Bustamante also showed reporters one of the ballot boxes which will be used. These will be mounted on a metal base which will permit a citizen to vote secretly, but when the ballot is put into the box, the party observers or members of the receiving board can easily ascertain whether there has been fraud or whether the voter carried any device and leaves it inside the precinct, as could have occurred had the old-style ballot boxes continued in use.

STUDY REPORTS ON ECONOMIC AID TO GOVERNMENT

PA112249 Paris AFP in Spanish 2117 GMT 11 Jan 82

[Text] Mexico City, 11 Jan (AFP) -- Foreign economic aid to the Salvadoran Government junta totalled $1.14 billion and came from almost 120 countries, according to a study released in this capital today by the opposition magazine PROCESO.

According to a report, prepared by researchers of the political and social science faculty of the University of Mexico for a Berlin Free University yearbook and based on information provided by the Salvadoran Government and the U.S. Center for International Policy, the sum mentioned is almost double the annual budget of that Central American country. Of this total, the United States provided $657.6 million plus another $103.6 in military aid; Venezuela supplied almost $140 million, and another $240 million came from many other countries, led by Great Britain, which provided $19.2 million.

According to the authors, these countries range "from loyal allies of the United States, such as Italy or Great Britain, to some allies that are critical or that support a political solution between the junta and the FMLN-Revolutionary Democratic Front (FDR)." Mexico is in seventh place with $9.6 million.

The contribution attributed to the Venezuelan Government is based on estimates from official sources in Caracas. It was stated that in the case of the United States, "the funds for economic aid came from government agencies and private U.S. banks, as well as from some international agencies in which Washington has final decisionmaking power, either directly or through alliances." Cited as an example of this was the IMF, which contributed $160.6 million.

Argentine Aid Cited

PA081750 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1200 GMT 8 Jan 82

[Text] The Government of Argentina has given the Salvadoran military-Christian Democratic Junta a $15-million loan for a 6-month period as a result of an agreement. Salvadoran economic, social and political sectors agree with international experts who believe that the junta is trying to solve the acute economic crisis by means of a desperate policy of accepting loans from governments and international organizations, which makes the situation worse and results in the largest indebtedness in our history.

MINISTRY ANNOUNCES TRADE AGREEMENT WITH HONDURAS

PA091503 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 6 Jan 82 pp 2, 33

[Text] The Honduran Congress has approved the bilateral trade agreement between that nation and our country. According to Foreign Trade Minister Guillermo Diaz Salazar, this will benefit both our peoples and will permit a better human relationship. The announcement was made Monday during a Foreign Trade Ministry party for newsmen at the Presidente Hotel. The document, he added, has been well negotiated. El Salvador has always wanted to negotiate, but Honduras feared that our products might invade that market. This was the case in 1969, the official went on, when our products did invade that market. Now, however, they have had 10 years for technical improvements and our industries have experienced serious problems for reasons that are already known.

According to Diaz Salazar, these commercial relations will help us achieve better human relations. The lines of products, he added, are broad, but they contain the seeds for the vital and fruitful development of these two fraternal nations' industries and commerce. At present the two nations share the same level of advancement, he said. According to Minister Diaz Salazar, Honduran Economy Minister Ruben Mondragon and other officials and members of the Honduran industrial sector, will arrive shortly to sign the document. Our industrial and commercial sectors are awaiting them. Diaz Salazar added that from the Honduran market our country will be able to obtain raw materials and the appropriate sectors will also be able to obtain the supplies needed to complement their activities.

Commenting on the work carried out in connection with the Central American Common Market, CACM, he explained that Honduras has excluded itself from that framework and has contracted commercial agreements with each of the Isthmian countries. This, he said, constituted a blow against the common market we wanted to construct, he asserted. According to the official, organized systems are the best way to function. The EEC is a worthy example of this type of organization and of the scope that can be achieved, he added. This is the reason that the Central American countries ought to unite in order to achieve the commercial and industrial development that our peoples need, he asserted.

Furthermore, he added, we must all share the same criterion so that our efforts will take the same direction and so that unnecessary obstacles will not develop to strategic projects and programs.

The minister said in conclusion that the officials and employees, who work promptly and with many responsibilities in the Foreign Trade Ministry, are directing their efforts exclusively outward toward a diversity of products for which good markets and offers are being sought.

GUATEMALA

ARMY CHIEF CHARGES NUN INVOLVED WITH GUERRILLAS

PA100043 Paris AFP in Spanish 1817 GMT 9 Jan 82

[Text] Guatemala City, 9 Jan (AFP) -- Gen Manuel Benedicto Lucas Garcia, chief of the Guatemalan Army's General Staff, today accused several clergymen of being implicated in guerrilla activities. Among others he named Sister de la Roca who was kidnapped last Tuesday. In a statement to Guatemalan television, the military chief said that the mother superior of the Esquipulas Bethlemite convent, Sister de la Roca, "is involved with the guerrillas and we have at our disposal abundant information about her contacts with leaders of the subversion." Mother Victoria, as she is known, was kidnapped on Tuesday by a group of armed men who broke into the convent and, after beating several nuns and half destroying the installation, kidnapped the superior. Her whereabouts are still unknown.

Gen Benedicto Lucas, a brother of President Romeo Lucas, voiced the hope that the nun will be found safe and sound. He warned, however, that in the event she is, the government will file charges against her "to establish responsibility, since we have proof she is a subversive." Further on, the military chief urged the "bad" Guatemalan and foreign "priests" to leave the country. He was also satisfied with the reappearance of Fathers Paul Schildermans, a Belgian national, and Roberto Paredes, a Guatemalan, who had been kidnapped earlier in the week in Escuintla, in southern Guatemala. In addition, the chief of the army's general staff reported that new armed clashes have occurred in Quiche Department in western Guatemala and that a clash on Friday had resulted in the death of 16 guerrillas. He also confirmed that a second large-scale antiguerrilla offensive will begin next week in western Guatemala, specifically in the area of Quiche, after the first offensive in Chimaltenango had ended "satisfactorily."

SUBVERSIVES SEEK DISRUPTION OF MARCH ELECTIONS

PA081932 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo in Spanish 1200 GMT 8 Jan 82

[Text] Maj Rolando Archila Marroquin, under secretary of public relations of the presidency of the republic, charged that subversive groups are engaged in stripping citizens of their personal documents to help boycott the elections scheduled for March. The official spokesman said the clandestine groups continue their acts of sabotage, burning of vehicles, construction of barricades on highways and destruction of municipal installations and civil registries in their plan to destabilize the nation's economy and create a climate of unrest among the guatemalan population.

Major Archila also publicly charged that the guerrillas intend through their terrorist activities to restrict free democratic activities and each citizen's right to cast his vote at the Sunday, 7 March, elections. However, he concluded, terrorism will not be able to stop the electoral process in the country. He then exhorted the Guatemalan population to participate in force in the elections to be held within the next few months.

DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER UNHURT IN ATTACK ON HOME

PA111926 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo in Spanish 1200 GMT 11 Jan 82

[Text] A policeman was killed and another was wounded in an attack last night by unidentified persons on Deputy Foreign Minister Alfonso Alonso Lima's home, located on 12th street between 1st and 2d Avenues, Zone 3, in this capital.

According to the report obtained by our reporter, the attack occurred shortly after 1900. The attackers were traveling in an automobile which was not immediately identified. They escaped successfully. The dead man was identified as (Jose Vargas Lemus), who was taken while still alive to the Guatemalan social security institute's center No 1. He died an hour later of his wounds. He belonged to the I Corps.

Another policeman identified as (Salvador Ramirez) was wounded and is hospitalized at the Guatemalan social security institute's center No 1. Initial reports state that Mr Alfonso Alonso Lima was at home last night when the attack occurred. It has been fully established that the official and his family are well.

HONDURAS

TEXT OF FOREIGN SECRETARY'S PROTEST TO NICARAGUA

PA112116 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 11 Jan 82

[Text of protest letter sent by Honduran Foreign Affairs Secretary Cesar Elvir Sierra to the Nicaraguan Foreign Minister; dated 7 January -- read by announcer]

[Text] Mr Minister: I have the honor to address Your Excellency in order to convey the justified concern of the Honduran Government over the countless deeds and occurrences carried out by elements of the Sandinist Peoples Army [EPS]. Such deeds have caused the death of Honduran civilian and military citizens and have kept many inhabitants or border areas in constant fear and terror, especially in the area of Mosquita, Department of Gracias a Dios, whose inhabitants have requested adequate protection from the Honduran Government, particularly in their area, where only members of the engineers battalion are stationed. These men are engaged in construction projects and not in providing security services.

These deplorable acts have taken place so frequently that it has become commonplace for Nicaraguan authorities to hand over the bodies of many dead Hondurans.

These actions include raids that violate our sovereignty, carried out by armed Nicaraguan elements who seize Nicaraguan citizens who have taken refuge in Honduran territory, steal cattle and cause other property damage to our citizens; the capture of Honduran flagged fishing vessels; and the seizure of valuable fishing equipment and outrages against ships' crews. These actions are representative of attitudes contrary to the respect and norms of coexistence that should prevail among neighboring states that need to live in peace.

To the negative balance unfortunately left behind by this past year and by early 1982, we must add the following events:

1. On 26 December 1981, a group of citizens, members of the Miskitos race navigating the Rio Coco were cruelly machinegunned by EPS elements stationed on the opposite bank when they passed in front of the town of Leimus. They were in Honduran territorial waters. An uncommon number of the Miskitos were killed or wounded.

2. Bullets fired by EPS elements crossed the river over to the Honduran side and jeopardized the lives of Leimus citizens. This act is another violation of our sovereignty.

3. On 2 January 1982, while a special Honduran commission carried out an investigation of the events mentioned above, a small Soviet-made Nicaraguan airplane overflew the Leimus area and violated Honduran airspace. A few minutes after that, another violation of our airspace took place when another Sandinist Air Force [FAS] of the push-and-pull type overflew the area.

Because of these new violations of international law and of those regulating respect for human rights, the government of Honduras strongly protests to the illustrious Government of Nicaragua and requests and extensive investigation and the application of due sanctions to those guilty of them.

The Honduran Government hopes that the illustrious Government of Nicaragua will adopt the necessary measures to avoid the repetition of these acts, which are increasingly more serious and to a great extent affect the peaceful relations and harmonious coexistence which should prevail between our two countries.

Please accept, Minister, the assurances of my highest consideration. Cesar Elvir Sierra. Foreign Affairs Secretary.

PRESIDENT-ELECT DELAYS CHOOSING OF CABINET

PA081914 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 8 Jan 82

[Station commentary]

[Excerpts] The Liberal Party's victory forced a change of expression on the faces of many peopel who, although they believed in the party's victory, never thought it would be of such significance magnitude. The final figures were very revealing. The winning party obtained over 145,000 votes over its closest rival, the National Party, thus gaining full control, not only of the Executive Branch, but also of Congress and the Supreme Court. The report circled the world by teletype and this event, unexpected for many who continued not to believe in pure elections, lifted the treat of violence in Honduras and smashed, for the time being the political domino theory. This theory -- which was expected to become reality soon -- stresses the observation of how one by one, not only Nicaragua, but also El Salvador and Guatemala, fall into the hands of the extreme left until at the end, all of the Central American region has fallen.

Today, the main issue discussed at coffee shops and street corners is another very significant matter. It is no longer violence; it is no longer the domino theory. Now, it is something that interests the people of Honduras much more -- the makeup of the new government team. Who will the president's men be? Interests now are centered on much more important things; will Dr Roberto Suazo Cordoba be influenced in his choice by the well-known restraints (Argollas) or by his new friends, those who loiter around the republic?

Opimists believe that with the arrival to power of Dr Roberto Suazo Cordoba, everything will be settled and huge new loans will fill the national treasury. First, there was talk about a famous mini-Marshal plan. After that, there was the Cancun plan. And now, there is the dance of millions which will be brought by the president of the IDB.

But, little by little, this record is becoming very scratched. What is very real is that unless we have a capable and honest government team, it is not going to be easy to sell the image of seriousness that a country needs, and these hopes can be frustrated, thus losing a magnificient chance to save Honduras.

In the face of this situation and in the face of being unable to obtain the credit to balance the national budget, the solution is no longer a secret. It was necessary to resort to extreme measures, to taxes, which the people have received bravely because they trust that this time these funds will return as public works and lead to better times.

Nevertheless -- and this is a very important fact -- the delay in appointing the cabinet and the president's main advisers and aides is already being felt. The time has come for the new ruler to secretly sit down with those men who will help him bear the heavy burden.

But concerns begin to be felt, especially in the private sector, over the paralysis of everything connected with production. The lack of decisions has placed in a state of suspense, ever since the onset of the long political campaign, the working men -- those who do not live off or wait for public handouts; those who generate work, those who like to work, of whom there are still many left in Honduras.

GOVERNMENT TAKES STEPS IN TRANSPORTATION CRISIS

Armed Forces Called Out

PA120313 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 2356 GMT 11 Jan 82

[Press release issued by the Honduran Press Secretariat]

[Text] In view of the constant disruptions of public order by certain groups of owners and operators of urban transportation units in the capital of the republic, and in view of their desire to increase the cost of living by increasing bus fares, the government of the republic informs the Honduran people that it has taken measures to safeguard the interests of the community.

1. The government, as has been its policy, has not permitted an increase in fares and for several years has directly subsidized transporters in Tegucigalpa to allow them to operate without losses, has granted them financing exemptions, has carried out studies to improve the operation of routes so as to make them more advantageous for businessmen.

2. The transporters, by their attitude, seek only to disrupt public order. Consequently, the solutions proposed by the government do not satisfy them, even though these solutions represent greater social costs.

3. The fact that the government is willing to continue paying the subsidy does not mean that the problem is being postponed to leave difficulties for the new administration. On the contrary, the intent is to have an orderly and peaceful transition.

4. Since the government's intent is to maintain peace, and since it is responsible for allowing the people to carry out their activities in freedom, the armed forces have been asked, in line with their constitutional duties, to intervene to clear the public streets of hindrances that prevent free movement and to arrest the rioters who have again taken positions against the people, in order that the responsibility involved may be determined in conformity with our laws.

Detained Drivers Drafted

PA120355 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 0249 GMT 12 Jan 82

[Text] The following information has been provided to our press department by one of the high-ranking military chiefs presently working to disperse congestion on the road leading to Toncontin International Airport. All drivers and fare collectors detained in the urban transport units have been taken to the 1st Infantry Battalion and obligatory military service will begin tonight for all those who have not served in the military before.

According to another report, although the armed forces did not announce this on the national radio network formed a few minutes ago, it will place 300 army drivers at the disposal of the capital city's people. Beginning very early in the morning, they will be driving the urban transport units. Each driver will travel with two money collectors from the army. This measure has been adopted because it has been deemed suitable. The government itself is answerable for the units and now the army is taking over them to render a service for the capital city's community.

Communique Issued

PA120327 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 0240 GMT 12 Jan 82

[Official communique No 2 released by the presidency's press secretariat]

[Text] The capital city's public is advised of the following:

1. The urban transport service will gradually return to normal early in the morning. This service will be rendered using the transportation units requisitioned by the armed forces. These units will be operated by military elements, who will give the user a ticket corresponding to the fare, which will be equivalent to 15 cents. Those units belonging to independent transporters who have expressed their desire to continue rendering the service will also be in use.

2. People are urged to demand a voucher in those units operated by military personnel and to collaborate with the armed forces so that this moment of crisis can be overcome with the least sacrifice by the population and on behalf of continued normal activities by the citizens.

3. The government of the republic urges the urban service transporters to join in the government's effort to normalize the transport problem.

NICARAGUA

OPPOSITION LEADERS BEATEN AT MEMORIAL CEREMONY

PA110010 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2325 GMT 10 Jan 82

[Text] Managua, 10 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- Several persons were beaten, including Alfonso Robelo, former member of the Nicaraguan Government junta, during incidents today at the western cemetery, during a ceremony commemorating the 4th anniversary of Pedro Joaquin Chamorro Cardenal's murder.

Witnesses told ACAN-EFE that the incidents occurred inside and around the Managua cemetery between unidentified attackers and members of the Democratic Coordinating Board, an alliance made up of opposition parties. This opposition party organization organized a civic march toward the cemetery which occurred without incident. It was protected by the Managua police.

Reports added that Alfonso Robelo, Democratic Coordinating Board chairman, was about to make a speech when he was hit on the head. Another attacker knocked Robelo's glasses off with a blow. He was apparently injured in the nose.

Robelo participated in the ceremony protected by Nicaraguan Democratic Movement youth who defended him. The unidentified persons also tried to attack Pedro Joaquin Chamorro Barrios, co-director of LA PRENSA and son of the murdered newsman. It was reported that the police immediately protected Chamorro Barrios and his wife who were taken aboard a military vehicle to the house of Violeta Barrios de Chamorro, widow of Chamorro Cardenal and former member of the government junta. Before receiving police protection Chamorro Barrios was hit on the head with a club.

ARRESTED PSC LEADER JARQUIN ANAYA TO BE RELEASED

PA112120 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 11 Jan 82

[Text] Agustin Jarquin Anaya, secretary general of the Social Christian Party [PSC], was arrested yesterday by the Sandinist police and accused of being one of the main promoters of the disorders at the cemetery during a memorial ceremony in honor of Pedro Joaquin Chamorro Cardenal.

However, the chief of the Sandinist police substation in the Monsignor Lezcano neighborhood said that the rightist political leader would be released because there were no formal charges against him.

Jarquin Anaya had bruises on different parts of his body from blows received from the persons who were attacked by the provocateurs of the PSC and of the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement, during a political ceremony at the cemetery where the remains of Pedro Joaquin Chamorro Cardenal were laid to rest. At the ceremony, the rightist political leader was seen hitting a man whose only fault was that he was not applauding the speaker.

During the ceremony, which was to have been in honor of Pedro Joaquin Chamorro Cardenal, more vivas were heard for Alfonso Robelo than for the martyr of public freedoms [Chamorro Cardenal]. All the local and foreign reactionaries were present at the event.

MILITARY JEEP FOLLOWS POLITICIANS DURING TOUR

PA120256 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 2300 GMT 11 Jan 82

[Text] A delegation of the Democratic Conservative Party [PCD] composed of Clemente Guido and two members of the Conservative Youth left Managua yesterday morning for Carazo Department to visit the municipalities in that department and drum up support for the rally scheduled for 31 January. The delegation visited the municipalities of Diriamba, San Marcos, Santa Teresa and Jinotepe and held meetings there to make the final arrangements for the rally to be held by the PCD in Masatepe on 31 January in memory of Pedro Joaquin Chamorro Cardenal and conservatives who died during the war of liberation.

The PCD group from Managua got together with Adolfo Calero Portocarrero in Jinotepe. The group was followed throughout the trip by a jeep carrying military men who at no time showed any hostility toward the Conservative politicians.

The PCD leaders said the tour was a complete success. They added that the residents of the areas they visited said they will be in Masatepe on 31 January at 1000 to render homage to Chamorro and to Masatepe's martyrs.

OFFICIALS COMMENT ON FRENCH ARMS PURCHASE

Junta Spokesman

PA090033 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 8 Jan 82

[Text] Manuel Espinoza, official spokesman of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, said yesterday that Nicaragua reserves the sovereign right to withhold information on the quantity and quality of weapons that it may acquire from other governments. He was referring to news reports from Paris [words indistinct]. According to the junta spokesman, no other information on this subject will be given because Nicaragua, he stressed, has repeatedly stated through its spokesmen that it will negotiate the acquisition of weapons anywhere in the world.

Foreign Ministry Comments

PA101900 Pamana City ACAN in Spanish 1823 GMT 10 Jan 82

[Text] Managua, 10 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- On commenting on the Nicaraguan purchase of French weapons, the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry today stated that "the military equipment that Nicaragua has acquired is absolutely necessary for the defense of its sovereignty and territorial integrity. International reports from Paris indicate that the French Government has decided to sell about $20-million worth of weapons to Nicaragua.

The Foreign Ministry stressed that Nicaragua maintains the policy of not issuing any type of information regarding the purchase of military equipment. The Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry reiterated the commitment "to strengthen peace in the region and the world while truthfully assuring neighboring countries that Nicaragua will never be a source of aggression."

The Foreign Ministry added that as an independent country, Nicaragua "will continue to exercise its sovereign right to obtain diversified military aid from all countries willing to provide it."

UN SECRETARY GENERAL BRIEFED ON BORDER INCIDENTS

PA112022 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 11 Jan 82

[Text] Nicaragua has given Javier Perez de Cuellar, the UN secretary general, the last two letters of protest sent by the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry to the Honduran Government. This information was provided by the Nicaraguan ambassador at the United Nations, Javier Chamorro Mora. Chamorro Mora told AGENCIA NUEVA NICARAGUA [ANN] that he is concerned over Gen Policarpo Paz Garcia's lack of interest in fulfilling his promise to dismantle the camps of Somozists in the areas bordering with Nicaragua.

The Nicaraguan diplomat said that the newly appointed UN secretary general was very concerned and interested in the explanation and asked the Nicaraguan mission to keep him informed of the developments in the relations with Honduras.

COSTA RICAN OFFICAL TO MEET ON BORDER ISSUES

PA120253 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 2300 GMT 11 Jan 82

[Text] San Jose --Luis Carrion, Nicaraguan deputy interior minister, and (Harry Gozain), Costa Rican security minister [as heard], will meet tomorrow at noon at the San Juan del Sur border checkpoint. The two officials will discuss ways to avert friction in the future between Costa Rican and Nicaraguan authorities in view of the problems that have arisen at the border area in the last few days.

Clashes between anti-Sandinist groups and Nicaraguan authorities at points on the border between the two countries have been revealed in San Jose in recent months. The meeting was requested by the Nicaraguan Government.

DANIEL ORTEGA VISITS TROOPS ON HONDURAN BORDER

PA120230 Managua International Service in Spanish 0030 GMT 12 Jan 82

[Text] This last weekend, Nicaraguan Government Council Coordinator Commander Daniel Ortega visited the troops along the Nueva Segovia region bordering with Honduras. During his speech, he emphasized the role played by the Sandinist People's Army soldiers in the defense of national sovereignty.

FOREIGN MINISTER D'ESCOTO TRAVELS TO VENEZUELA

PA111908 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 11 Jan 82

[Text] Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto traveled to Venezuela today, a Foreign Ministry spokesman has reported. The objectives of the foreign minister's trip to Venezuela have not been disclosed. It has only been indicated that it will be a brief visit.

CUBA OFFERS 400 SCHOLARSHIPS FOR 1982 STUDY

PA120151 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 2300 GMT 11 Jan 82

[Text] The Social Welfare Ministry has announced that 400 scholarships will be available in 1982 to students wishing to study in Cuba. The scholarships will be made available through the National Executive Board of the National Association of Nicaraguan Teachers, the Agricultural Workers Association, the Sandinist Youth and the Sandinist Workers Federation. According to reports, these organizations will be in charge of distributing the scholarships after appropriately selecting the students, a process which began this week.

Applicants must be no older than 15. They must have completed sixth grade as a minimum in order to be able to enter the first year of secondary school at the basic schools on the Isle of Youth in Cuba. Some 1,200 Nicaraguan students are currently pursuing various careers on the island under scholarships granted by Fidel Castro's government. The ministry reported that the students will travel to Cuba in late August as the school year will begin in September.

SECURITY UNCOVERS PLOT AGAINST PROPERTY, LEADERS

PA090412 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 9 Jan 82

[Text] State Security has discovered a vast counterrevolutionary plot aimed at sabotaging, with explosives, the refinery and the cement plant. The plot included attempts on the lives of leaders of the Sandinist people's revolution. No less than 312 sticks of dynamite were going to be used to blow up the petroleum refinery and the cement plant.

The Interior Ministry has issued a communique disclosing the names of those arrested and the people involved in the plot. Here is the Interior Ministry official in charge of press and information reading the communique:

[Begin recording] The Interior Ministry wishes to inform the Nicaraguan people that the General Directorate of State Security has discovered a vast plot aimed at sabotaging, with explosives, the cement plant and the refinery and at murdering several revolutionary leaders. The sabotage was going to be carried out using 312 sticks of dynamite which were to be detonated with timeclocks.

The commando group in charge blowing up the refinery came from Honduras and is made up of mercenaries of various South American and Central American countries including Nicaragua. Officials of countries with which Nicaragua currently has relations, including military attaches accredited in our country as diplomats, are involved. We will report on this at another opportunity.

Among those arrested are William Baltodano Herrera, alias Commander Romulo, who was the command's operations chief. In concert with a group of former Somozist guardsmen and counterrevolutionaries, his mission was to direct the blowing up of the cement plant. He arrived in Nicaragua carrying a forged passport which was issued by a foreign military official. Another arrestee is Julio Gonzalez Ferron. Born in Spain, he is naturalized Venezuelan who was the contact between Costa Rica and Nicaragua for the Nicaraguan Democratic Union, (UDN) and the so-called Revolutionary Armed Forces of Nicaragua, (FARN).

(Miguel Angel Lopez), former National Guard and former member of the OSN [Somoza's National Security Office who was recently released; Gilberto Mojica Ruz, former national guardsmen and OSN member; Jose Daniel Mercado Gutierrez, who was pardoned in 1980 and released; Juan Manuel Lopez Poveda, Hildebrando Briones Medal, Orlando Alberto Noguera Hernandez, Luis Arnoldo Medrano Narvaez, Enrique de Jesus Medrano Martinez, Rodrigo Salomon Baltodano Medrano, Hector Asuncion Lopez Saenz, Felix Pedro Cruz Laguan, Ofilio Cajina Perez and Juan Ramon Mejia Rocha.

The counterrevolutionary command belongs to the UDN-FARN, led by Edmundo Chamorro and Fernando Rapaceiolli, (Juan Saval), Diego Manuel Robles, former OSN member; Adriana Guillen, columnist for the newspaper LA NACION of Costa Rica and writer for the newspaper LA PRENSA; and Jose Esteban Gonzalez, president of the permanent human rights commission who maintain contact with individuals in Nicaragua.

The counterrevolutionary organizations are made up of former national guardsmen, mainly members of the EEBI [Somoza's Basic Infantry Training School], and reactionaries linked to the traditional political parties.

In the next few days, the General Directorate of State Security will inform the Nicaraguan people regarding all the details of the plot.

The Interior Ministry remains alert against these counterrevolutionary plans which fall within the framework of the general activities uncovered at the beginning of the year by the General Directorate of State Security.

Issued in Managua on 8 January 1982. Interior Ministry Press and Information Office. [end recording]

D'ESCOTO VIEWS POLAND; CRITICIZES U.S.

PA090132 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 8 Jan 82

[Text] Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto said that he is pleased that Poland's problems are being solved without foreign interference. During a news conference held at a Catholic studies center in Managua, D'Escoto said that from the beginning the Sandinist revolution has defended the right to self-determination of peoples. The foreign minister said that the Honduran regime of Div Gen Policarpo Paz is incapable of checking the Honduran Armed Forces' constant attacks against Nicaragua. D'Escoto indirectly accused the United States of trying to create an armed conflict between the two Central American nations.

In a speech given at a Managua Christian reflection center D'Escoto said that armed attacks from Honduran territory have caused the deaths of over 150 Nicaraguans since the triumph of the Sandinist revolution. He condemned the repeated refusal of the Tegucigalpa officials to hold a meeting between the defense ministers of the two countries in order to analyze the existing border situation. D'Escoto also criticized the slander campaign underway in the United States because of the arrest of three Nicaraguan leaders of the private sector who violated the country's laws. He also referred to Washington's support for regimes which murder their political opponents.

RADIO DENIES INTERIOR MINISTRY COMMUNIQUE

PA111608 (Clandestine) Radio 15 September in Spanish to Nicaragua 0300 GMT 11 Jan 82

[Text] Radio 15 September and the Nicaraguan democratic forces categorically deny an Interior Ministry communique in which the [words indistinct] minister reports the death of 15 persons, presumably members of the [words indistinct] columns. What the Interior Ministry has reported is absolutely false. No command of freedom clashed on 31 December with the regime's repressive forces. However, our high staff intelligence service reported that two of those allegedly killed in combat, (Miguel Angel Diaz Mendez) and (Jose Cecilio Lopez Cuellar), whom Radio 15 September originally reported as missing, were captured in their [word indistinct] by the FSLN troops and now are reported as killed in combat by the Interior Ministry.

CARICOM COUNCIL MEETING TO OPEN 12 JANUARY

FL111205 Bridgetown CANA in English 2050 GMT 9 Jan 82

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, 9 Jan (CANA) -- Regional representatives are beginning to arrive in Guyana for a crucial ministerial council meeting that may smooth the course to a Caribbean Community (CARICOM) summit conference, the first in more than six years.

The session on Tuesday and Wednesday will be the 20th by the council, which is the next highest level to the summit in the regional integration movement.

Heads of government had their last formal meeting in St Kitts, December 1975. Despite critical economic and other problems and frequent calls for a conference, they have not been able to convene another over the years.

Trinidad and Tobago's long-serving leader, Dr Eric Williams, was variously accused as the person thwarting the summit plans. Since his death in March last year, there have been several mini-summits of sorts.

These included at the Commonwealth heads of government talks in Australia when the CARICOM delegation heads met in caucus, in Miami at the Fifth Conference on Caribbean Trade, Investment and Development, and in the region among the small island leaders who formed the Organization of East Caribbean States (OECS).

In recent months Prime Ministers Tom Adams of Barbados, Edward Seaga of Jamaica and President Forbes Burnham of Guyana have all said a summit was now imminent, and Dominica's prime minister, Miss Eugenia Charles, went further and declared that the date would be in March.

Trinidad and Tobago, expected to be much less aloof under new Prime Minister George Chambers, has been making welcome statements about its regional commitment and intended wider involvement.

Pre-summit preparation is therefore the present over-riding responsibility of the Georgetown council meeting.

The ministers go into session Tuesday afternoon following a day of work by their officials alone, and a morning meeting with non-governmental groups which play major roles in Caribbean life and have consultative status within CARICOM.

These include the revitalised Caribbean Association of Industry and Commerce (CAIC), the Caribbean Congress of Labour (CCL), the Caribbean Consumers Union, and the Caribbean Assembly of Youth.

Principal agenda item for the ministers is a report from a group of experts which has made serious recommendations for a more dynamic CARICOM strategy, on which the summit will have to take serious decisions.

The report reflects the unanimous view of such distinguished West Indians as William Demas (chairman), J. Arthur Brown, Sir Arthur Lewis, Shridath Ramphal, Alister McIntyre, Dr Vaughan Lewis, Edwin Carrington, Charles Skeete, Silbourne Clark, Charles Edwards and Dr Kurleigh King.

When the Council of Ministers met here for the 19th session last July, a working party was established to work out a strategy for the implementation of the recommendations.

This special group met last December 23 and 24 and grouped the recommendations into categories.

It has given highest priority to those relating to increased production, the strengthening of external trade and economic relations, and for increasing the involvement of the people of the region in the integration process. The Secretariat here said that the council will consider and decide on the detailed recommendations formulated by the working party.

The meeting is taking place at a critical time for the regional states. Most have come through 1981 with their production targets in vital sectors knocked askew and economic recovery programme off course.

The regional leaders are also currently trying to work toward a coordinated response to the United States proposal for a cooperative basin plan involving itself, Canada, Mexico and Venezuela, the details of which are yet to be finalised.

However, the immediate political test for the 20th council meeting will come from the manner in which the less developed countries (LDCS) behave within their new OECS sub-grouping.

The OECS, formally launched towards yearend, will include St Lucia, Grenada, St Vincent, Dominica, Antigua/Barbuda, St Kitts-Nevis, and Montserrat.

Cooperation among themselves, shared diplomatic and other services to reduce costs, and coordinated production and marketing strategies are some of the main aims of the unity move. But the OECS states have also spoken of the stronger bargaining clout they now have as "one voice" within the councils of CARICOM.

GRENADA

DELEGATION TO OECS MEETING LED BY WHITEMAN

FL210051 St Georges Domestic Service in English 2300 GMT 11 Jan 82

[Text] Grenada is to be represented by a three-member delegation at the meeting of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States, the OECS, in Antigua later this week.

This country's delegation will be headed by the minister of foreign affairs, Brother Unison Whiteman, and will include the permanent secretary in the Ministry of Planning, Sister Gloria Payne-Bansfield, and legal adviser to Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Brother Ashley Taylor.

The Antigua meeting, which opens on Wednesday, comes as a follow-up to the first OECS gathering held in St Lucia on 1 December when the body was formally launched.

Among matters to be discussed at the meeting will be the eastern Caribbean tourism association, operational matters related to the organization's staffing and budget, as well as civil aviation.

The OECS meeting will also be attended by other member countries of the OECS, namely, St. Lucia, Dominica, St Vincent and the Grenadines, St Kitts-Nevis, Montserrat and host country, Antigua. The meeting is scheduled to run until Saturday.

BAHAMAS

PINDLING ON UNEMPLOYMENT, ECONOMY, DRUGS

FL091845 Bridgetown CANA in English 1756 GMT 9 Jan 82

[Text] Nassau, the Bahamas, 9 Jan (CANA) -- Last year's upheavals in the international community caused the Bahamas some problems, but did not leave it badly shaken, Prime Minister Lynden Pindling said in a radio interview last night.

The Bahamas "came out, not unscathed, but in a fairly decent shape," Mr Pindling told an interviewer on Radio Bahamas.

The 52-year-old chief executive did concede that the country was adversely affected economically by the reversal in Western economic growth last year. This in turn, had a direct effect of influencing crime and violence in the country.

With the declining value of European currencies against the U.S. dollar and the declining discretionary income of North Americans, the air traffic controllers strike and its resultant 22 percent drop in flights all translated into a seven percent decline in tourism arrivals, the prime minister [said].

However, foreign investment in the country is at an all time high, according to Mr Pindling, and although the government's implementation of its land policy legislation was clouded by what he termed "propaganda", interest up and foreign investors are purchasing land for developmental uses.

Mr Pindling said the rate of unemployment in the Bahamas has declined by five percent since 1979 and currently hovers between 12 and 13.5 percent mainly due to a construction boom which has made jobs available for just about every able-bodied Bahamian male willing to work.

Aggravating matters for the nation's population centre, there is a "general exodus" in process from all but three family islands to New Providence in the search for jobs which are all but nonexistent in their respective island homes, he added.

However, due to a continued construction boom over the next five years, the male work force will remain employed while the government moves to diversify the economy to include more light industry that would employ the hardest hit sector of the nation's work force -- women, he told the interviewer.

In his discussion on unemployment, Mr Pindling placed the size of the New Providence and Grand Bahama work force at 80,000, out of whom just under 70,000 are gainfully employed.

And he blamed the tendency of young people to seek "soft" jobs as opposed to "hard" or blue collar jobs for the existing unemployment. The exception was women, who he said are better employed in light industry.

With the flight of young people to this capital island, the government has initiated programmes designed to encourage youngsters to remain at home by creating economic opportunities through fishing and agricultural cooperatives.

But even with the high rate of migration the high construction levels predicted for the next four of five years will mean continued low unemployment among males.

Some of the projects absorbing the unemployed, whose number declined by 10 percent between 1977 (when it peaked at over 26 percent) and 1979, include the 60 million dollars (U.S.) Cable Beach Hotel project, a sizeable project about to come on stream at Coral Harbour, the construction of a new parliament building, the 20 million dollar (U.S.) Grants Town urban improvement project, and several projects underway on Paradise Island. Mr. Pindling said that the government's "new thrust" will be to diversify the economy to find more job opportunities for the young in light industry but warned that it will take years to change the attitude of the young.

Decrease in Drug Trafficking

FL091850 Bridgetown CANA in English 1805 GMT 9 Jan 82

[Text] Nassau, the Bahamas, 9 Jan (CANA) -- Through stepped up efforts in its anti-drug smuggling campaign, the Royal Bahamas defence force has been able to achieve "a great reduction in drug trafficking" through this 100,000 square mile archipelago, according to Prime Minister Lynden Pindling. In an interview on Radio Bahamas, he said that 1981 was "perhaps the most successful year" in the government's effort against drug trafficking because of the increased funding which allowed constant patrols in the northwest and western Bahamas. And he disclosed that the defence force has maintained a party on Cay Sal in the extreme southwestern Bahamas that police are now stationed full-time at Normans Cay, and that more men are stationed on the ground in north Andros with regular shifts of personnel assigned to Bimini. Further, the defence force has increased the frequency of its aerial reconnaissance of the archipelago from once daily to several flights per day, he said. This, together with a "greater, freer flow of information from the U.S. Coast Guard," has resulted in some "interesting arrests" at sea and a "great reduction" in trafficking, since the drug ships now circumnavigate the Bahamas instead of attempting to pass through en route to North America. Mr Pindling indicated that his understanding is that the U.S. Government plans to provide this nation with equipment and training in its anti-drug smuggling campaign.